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EYES ONLY

12 April 1966

Colonel White:

This was a pretty full and juicy meeting. There were a couple of rather important developments not reflected in the minutes. One is that the DCI--much to Bud's great discomfort--announced himself as far less eager now to press for OXCART deployment, primarily because we have had some good recent photo coverage and because the political situation in Vietnam is such that there can hardly be any prospect of ChiCom intervention and thus a reduced need for OXCART.

Also, the DCI began to direct that we work out plans to put an IR camera in Air America aircraft and use it over the combat areas of NVN and SVN. Des dissuaded him from this and argued that making this equipment available to the Air Force is the way to do it. This did not go down too well with Bud, and the whole subject died quickly when Bud explained that we need test results from Project [] before we can determine how good the equipment is and whether it might be useful.

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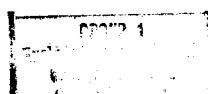
The DCI left several surprised and curious after directing all the Deputies to appear in his office to conduct employment interviews today with two Air Force Brigadier Generals who may be taken on as Ledford's replacement. DCI explained that he considered such a procedure to be courteous and that he wanted the Brigadier Generals, each of whom has a good chance of being Air Force Chief of Staff, to get to know how capable and competent the Agency's top people are. This capped the whole morning for Bud, who was in a real state by this time.



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12 April 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 12 April 1966

DD/I noted completion of a memo on the attitudes of NVN leaders toward the war. They remain as adamant and determined to win as ever. It was agreed that the memo would be given routine dissemination.

25X1 DD/I noted that [] as an assistant to Walt Rostow of the White House staff has forwarded a good many requests to us recently for special memos and assessments. A continuing flow of such requests from Rostow is expected. All agreed that this is a good thing.

25X1 DD/I noted the current exhibit of NPIC materials and equipment today and tomorrow in 1G55. He recommended a tour of the exhibit. DCI concurred and asked [] to arrange to invite Congressmen and Congressional staffers as appropriate.

Godfrey reported that weather caused cancellation of ROLLING THUNDER attacks against four NVN targets. (See Action 1)

Godfrey briefed on the political situation in Greece and noted that the coastal facility in NVN north of Vinh turns out upon analysis to be a coastal artillery rather than a cruise missile site.

25X1 At DCI inquiry [] reported that he had had discussions with the D/NRO about the Agency's problems with certain recommendations made on NRP programs. An NRO Executive Committee Meeting is expected probably next week. [] and DD/S&T said that Drs. Flax and Foster are both aware of Senator Russell's comments about Agency R&D programs and that both of these officials support us on our programs. DD/S&T said that Foster will defend [] on the Hill. DCI 25X1 concurred with DD/S&T's offer to Foster to brief him on the Agency's R&D program.

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DD/S reported that he, the Director of Security, and other DD/S staff officials had spent the day yesterday touring TSD and getting briefed on TSD programs. This was all very helpful.

Bross reported that arrangements will be made to brief General Maxwell Taylor on OXCART and OXCART deployment either tomorrow afternoon or early next week. The DCI said he does not plan to attend. This led to a discussion of OXCART deployment. Word is that this is a likely topic for the regular weekly luncheon on 19 April including the President, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of Defense. The current Agency presentation on OXCART deployment is being done up in booklet form with pictures and charts. DCI wants to have this available for the two Secretaries and perhaps the President through Rostow prior to the discussion of this subject with the President.

DD/S&T reported that the current CORONA satellite is functioning well. The recovery date is uncertain.

25X1

DD/S&T reported two Soviet ICBM launchings last night. These reflect resumption of SS-11 testing program.

DD/S&T noted that there are no current preparations at the range heads for any unusual Soviet space event, press reports to the contrary.

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DD/P noted a growing number of indications that the Ky government will not last long. Various dark horses including General Thi have been mentioned as possible successors.

DD/P observed that Jorden and Riggins of the State Department will replace Komer and Cooper as Near East and Far East experts on the White House staff.



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DD/P gave to DCI a study of the techniques being employed in combining agent reports and photographic information to develop intelligence on a Viet Cong presence in Cambodia. He also gave to DCI a listing of U. S. air strikes in SVN which have ensued from information developed by Agency-supported operations. The DCI gave these reports to DD/I for consideration as topics for publications. The DCI also noted that these reports can be useful in our budget justifications.

DDCI noted completion late yesterday of a memo by  on the implications of a Buddhist government in SVN. The memo will be sent to Rostow this morning.

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DDCI noted that he would be out of town all day tomorrow and that any urgent business for his consideration should be taken up today.

ACTIONS:

1. DD/S&T is requested to produce a memo on the effects of weather on air operations in Southeast Asia. (DD/S&T by 15 April) ^{done}

2. Noting current news stories on the effectiveness of equipment to register "voice prints," DCI said that such a capability no doubt has wide application in use to Agency work and to the interests of the national Government. He requested that interested offices from DD/P, DD/S&T, and DD/S consult to set forth specific applications for the use of such equipment as a planning guide. (DD/P, DD/S&T, DD/S by 1 June)

3. DDCI directed that the Chairman of the Board of National Estimates undertake to pass a Memo to Holders today or tomorrow providing the latest word on the security situation in Mexico City as a follow-up to the recent SNIE on this subject.

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

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4. Noting a Memo of Conversation prepared by John Hart, who met recently to discuss Vietnam with Vice President Humphrey, DDCI asked that DD/I and DD/P consult and take actions as appropriate designed to fill the gaps in what the Vice President regards as lack of the fullest possible information concerning the political situation in Vietnam. (DD/I and DD/P - Status report by 20 April)

25X1

 
L. K. White

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